

VETERANS NEWS

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CalVet Announces First Annual Women Veterans Conference

The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) will be holding its first annual Women Veterans Conference in Sacramento on Friday, August 8.

The conference, with a theme of "Continuing Our Legacy" will take place at the Lions Gate Hotel on the grounds of the former McClellan Air Force Base. This free CalVet Women Veterans Conference has as its purpose:

- To provide a network forum for women veterans from all wars,
- To educate women veterans on their benefits and health care programs available to them, and
- To provide assistance with employment opportunities.

CalVet is especially interested in having Operation Enduring Freedom / Operation Iraqi Freedom women veterans attend the conference since many of the panel discussions, workshops, and the educational faire will address areas in which they may be interested. The conference will also include an open forum with members from the California Legislative Women's Caucus and the Commission on the Status of Women.

Attendance is limited to the first 200 registrants.

Additional information regarding the conference, including a registration form, is included in the brochure attached to this announcement, which is also available online at www.calvet.ca.gov.

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Note to editors: This Veterans News and previous CDVA news releases, advisories, and newsletters are available on our website at www.cdva.ca.gov and via email from Jaime.Arteaga@cdva.ca.gov.

Hotel reservations may be made by calling the hotel directly at:

866-866-7100 toll-free

**Lions Gate Hotel
3410 Westover
McClellan, CA 95652**

Rooms must be reserved by July 6, 2008.
Reservations made after July 7, 2008 will be
accepted on a space and rate availability basis.



Conference co-sponsored by:

*State of California
Commission on the Status of
Women*

The Commission exists to serve the women
and girls of California, and is the vehicle
through which all their voices can be heard.

*California Legislative
Women's Caucus*

The Legislative Women's Caucus
represents and advocates on behalf of the
diverse interests of women, children and
families throughout California.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VISION

California veterans will live the
highest quality of life with dignity
and honor.

CORE VALUES

Respect for All

Absolute Integrity

Outstanding Service

Commitment to Excellence

A "Can Do" Spirit



California Department of Veterans
Affairs
Women and Minority Veterans Affairs
1227 O Street, Room 300
Sacramento, CA 95814

Questions: 916-653-2551

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

***CALVET WOMEN
VETERANS
CONFERENCE:
CONTINUING OUR
LEGACY***

SACRAMENTO, CA

Friday, August 8, 2008





Barbara Ward
*Deputy Secretary for Women and Minority
 Veterans Affairs*

Since the beginning of recorded history, civilized nations have recognized the contributions made to the general welfare of society by those who serve in military uniform. The United States of America and State of California have continued that recognition of the value of military service through the work of their respective Departments of Veterans Affairs.

From the founding of our Republic, women have served our nation in the military and continue to do so in ever increasing numbers. Although all forms of recognition provided by a grateful citizenry have always been open equally to women veterans, they remain historically under represented in using the benefits offered to them and seem more reluctant to embrace their status as veterans than their male counterparts.

Because of this problem and to address some of the concerns specific to women veterans, the California Department of Veterans Affairs has organized this one-day CalVet Women Veterans Conference in McClellan (Sacramento). The hope is to be able to hold this conference annually in different locations throughout the state.

California is home to approximately 164,000 women veterans. Of this number, very few are

taking advantage of the benefits available to them; benefits they have earned. It is therefore of great importance that we expand our outreach efforts to this veterans population.

The CalVet Women Veterans Conference has as its purpose:

- To provide a network forum for women veterans from all wars,
- To educate women veterans on their benefits and health care programs available to them, and
- To provide assistance with employment opportunities.

The keynote speaker for the Women Veterans Conference will be Dr. Irene Trowell-Harris, Director of the Center for Women Veterans, located in Washington D.C.

Additional speakers will be representative of all military branches and will address women veteran specific issues via panel discussions and workshops.

This CalVet Women Veterans Conference is the first of its kind to be held in Sacramento. It is open to all women veterans throughout California. An Education Faire will also be held during the conference.

LOCATION: Lions Gate Hotel
3410 Westover
McClellan, CA 95652

A block of rooms has been set aside at a rate of \$84 for attendees to the Calvet Women's Conference. These rooms must be booked before July 6, 2008. **To make reservations call toll-free -- 866-866-7100.** Reservations made after July 7, 2008 will be accepted on a space and rate availability basis.



Friday, August 8, 2008

***CALVET WOMEN VETERANS
 CONFERENCE: CONTINUING
 OUR LEGACY***

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Branch of Service: _____

Special Needs (Explain): _____

Please send registration forms to:

**California Department of Veterans Affairs
 Women and Minority Veterans Affairs
 1227 O Street, Room 300
 Sacramento, CA 95814**

Forms may also be faxed to 916-651-6262